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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/944,425	08/30/2001	Joseph I. Chamdani	PA1753US	1853
5073	7590	02/09/2005	EXAMINER	
BAKER BOTTS L.L.P. 2001 ROSS AVENUE SUITE 600 DALLAS, TX 75201-2980			PWU, JEFFREY C	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2143	

DATE MAILED: 02/09/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/944,425	CHAMDANI ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Jeffrey Pwu	2143

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-50 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-50 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>1/16/2002</u> .	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

Related Applications

1. Please update the Cross-Reference To Related Applications.

Title

2. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1-50 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being unpatentable over Hu et al. (6,535,518).

Hu et al. disclose claims :

1. A network system comprising:
a storage device (Storage A (or SAN) ; 110);
a server (120);
a network switch (101); and
a unified networking device configured to provide a single-hop communication path between the storage device and the server, a single-hop communication path between the storage device and the network switch, and a single-hop communication path between the server and the network switch (100).

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2. The network system of claim 1, wherein the unified networking device is further configured to provide a single-hop communication path between the storage device and a router (101↔110), a single-hop communication path between the server and the router (101↔120), and a single-hop communication path between the network switch and the router (130↔101).
3. The network system of claim 1, further comprising a second storage device and the unified networking device is further configured to provide a single-hop communication path between the storage device and the second storage device (col.8, line 30-col.9, line 24).
4. The network system of claim 1, wherein the network switch is a load balancing network switch (col.8, lines 1-25; abstract).
5. The network system of claim 1, wherein the storage device is a Redundant Array of Independent Disks (col.9, lines 43-47).
6. The network system of claim 1, wherein the storage device is a Just a Bunch of Disks (col.9, lines 43-47).).
7. The network system of claim 1, wherein the storage device is a tape drive (col.9, lines 43-47).
8. The network system of claim 1, wherein the unified networking device is configured to communicate with a plurality of servers (col.9, lines 43-47).
9. The network system of claim 1, wherein the unified networking device includes a plurality of line cards each having at least one port capable of transmitting packets, and a switch card configured to communicate with the plurality of line cards across a backplane (col.7, line 1-col.10, line 27; It is inherent a “Decoding and Control Unit”, “Controller”, “Scheduler and Flow Control”, “Router”, “Buffering”, and “Medium Interfaces” must use interconnecting ports and switches).
10. The network system of claim 9, wherein the unified networking device includes sixteen line cards each having sixteen ports, and four switch cards, where each switch card is configured to communicate with every other switch card and each line card (It is inherent in networking to connect cards and distributed network switches; also see fig.4, 16-line cards).
11. The network system of claim 9, wherein each of the plurality of line cards includes a packet processor in communication with the backplane (col.13, line 50-col.14, line 6).

12. The network system of claim 11, wherein each packet processor is an application specific integrated circuit (col.13, line 50-col.14, line 6).
13. The network system of claim 9, wherein the switch card includes at least one flow control application specific integrated circuit and a crossbar switch (fig.4, "Data Driven Multi-processor Pipelined Model").

Claims 14-50 are similarly rejected as in claims 1-13.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jeffrey Pwu whose telephone number 571-272-6798.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



February 5, 2005

JEFFREY PWU
PRIMARY EXAMINER
